

Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
EUR-12 OC-06 CCO-00 PM-04 SCS-03 SCA-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01
L-03 H-01 /061 W

----- 091289 /12

P 221035Z DEC 76
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4312
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ICRC, LICROSS, WN, VS, LA
SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF RED CROSS REPS TO VIETNAM AND LAOS

1. MISSION HAS RECEIVED PROGRESS REPORT NO. 23 ON INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS ASSISTANCE IN INDOCHINA, DATED DECEMBER 17, WHICH REPORTS INTENDED TRAVEL OF ICRC AND LICROSS REPS TO VIETNAM AND LAOS.

2. REPORT REFERS TO VISIT TO GENEVA IN LATE OCTOBER ON INVITATION OF ICRC AND LICROSS OF FOLLOWING VIETNAMESE: DR. NGUYEN-VAN-TIN, VP OF THE VIETNAMESE RED CROSS AND SRV VICE MINISTER OF HEALTH; MR. TRUONG-XUAN-NAM, ASST SECY GENERAL OF THE VIETNAMESE RED CROSS; AND DR. TRAN-DO-TRINH, ASST DIR OF THE BACH MAI HOSPITAL IN HANOI. IT REPORTS THAT MEETINGS WERE HELD AT THAT TIME BETWEEN THESE REPS AND THOSE OF FRENCH, GERMAN AND JAPANESE RED CROSS SOCIETIES TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF HOSPITAL PROJECTS IN VIETNAM BEING FINANCED BY LATTER. MEETINGS ALSO RESULTED IN DECISION TO POSTPONE UNTIL MID-JANUARY PLANNED NOVEMBER TRIP OF ICRC OPERATIONS DIRECTOR HOCKE AND LICROSS OPS DIRECTOR ROBERT-TISSOT. ACCORDINGLY, THE TWO WILL DEPART GENEVA JANUARY 11, "SPEND A FEW DAYS" IN LAOS AND ARRIVE IN
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VIETNAM ON JANUARY 15 FOR STAY OF 7 TO 10 DAYS DURING WHICH THEY PLAN TO VISIT BOTH HANOI AND HO CHI MINH VILLE.

3. PROGRESS REPORT ALSO NOTES DECISION THAT AS OF JANUARY 1, THE ICRC AND LICROSS WOULD RESUME SEPARATE RESPONSIBILITIES AS FAR AS INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND

ARE CONCERNED. THUS PRESENT JOINT DELEGATION IN BANGKOK
WILL BECOME EXCLUSIVELY ICRC FROM THAT TIME.

4. PROGRESS REPORT NOTES "CLOSE CONTACT" BEING MAINTAINED
BY RED CROSS HANOI DELEGATION WITH VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES
FOR FAMILY REUNION AND REPATRIATION OF FOREIGNERS STILL IN
HO CHI MINH VILLE. IT EXPRESSES HOPE THAT FURTHER DETAILS
ON THESE SUBJECTS MIGHT BE GIVEN AFTER VISIT OF JOINT
DIRECTORS. IN GENERAL, DIRECTORS PLAN TO REVIEW OVZRRAL SITUA-
TION CONCERNING RELIEF AND PROTECTION IN VIETNAM AND
DISCUSS PROSPECTS AND PLANS FOR 1977. LATTER MAY INCLUDE
PREDISASTER PLANNING, ESTABLISHMENT OF WAREHOUSES, PROVISION
OF EMERGENCY RELIEF SUPPLIES, PREVENTATIVE HEALTH PROGRAMS,
YOUTH ACTIVITIES, AND PARTICIPATION OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY
IN REGIONAL SEMINARS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES. NOTE IS TAKEN
THAT IN ADDITION TO HOSPITALS MENTIONED ABOVE, THE SWISS
RED CROSS IS CONSIDERING CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT OF A
"DISPENSARY/POLICLINIC" AT HA HAM.

5. REPORT STATES THAT ICRC CONTINUES TO MAINTAIN A
SMALL DELEGATION IN VIENTIANE AND TO PROVIDE LIMITED
ASSISTANCE. FURTHER PLANS WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH LAOTIAN
OFFICIALS DURING JANUARY VISIT.

6. REPORT ATTACHES LIST OF CONTRIBUTIONS IN CASH, KIND
AND SERVICES FOR ITS PROGRAM IN INDOCHINA AS OF
3 NOVEMBER, WHICH TOTALS 83.7 MILLION SWISS FRANCS. OF
THIS SUM, THE UNITED STATES IS LISTED AS CONTRIBUTING
274,515 SWISS FRANCS FROM THE AMERICAN RED CROSS AND
4.1 MILLION SWISS FRANCS FROM THE USG.
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7. ACTION REQUESTED: SHOULD ANY ADDRESSEES WISH MESSAGES
CONVEYED TO HOCKE OR ROBERT-TISSOT PRIOR TO THEIR
DEPARTURE FROM GENEVA, PLEASE SO NOTIFY MISSION.

8. MISSION AIRPOUCHING PROGRESS REPORT NO. 23 TO
DEPARTMENT (D/HA - SIEVERTS), REGISTRY NUMBER 99693 TODAY.
CATTO

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RELIEF, PROGRESS REPORTS, PERSONNEL TRAVEL, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA10066
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760469-0660
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761221/aaaaasas.tel
Line Count: 105
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION DHA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <02 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAVEL OF RED CROSS REPS TO VIETNAM AND LAOS
TAGS: SREF, VN, LA, ICRC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006